

TO THE RIGHT
HONOURABLE, THE
Lords and others of his Ma-
jesties most Honourable
pruie Councell.

Right Honourable,

It is well seene, that all such in this
Land, as feare not Gods Iudgements,
are loath to be judged by your Ho-
nours. It is also very apparent,
that were it not but for your Ho-
nours, there would bee no end of
oppression and wrong, nor any living in this Land,
neither for Poore nor Rich; and that therefore, all
the Kings louing and true hearted Subiects, both
high and lowe, haue cause continually to pray for
your Honours, next to our gracious King and his
Royall Issue.

Give me (your poore Suppliant) leaue to de-
clare the wrongs vnder which I haue a long time
groaned; hauing spent many yeares in the seruice of
the *Summer Islands Company* in much misery
especially

especially, in the two first yeares, wherein I was like to perish through want of food, when the Gouvernor had not so much meale as would hold out one month, to giue to euery man one pound for a weeke, did (out of his care to saue some aliue) cull out all such as were hartlesse and lazie, and sent them into the maine, to liue vpon Berries, or to starue, seeing there was no remedy: I then went to the Gouvernor, and told him that it was too much cruelty, to let them starue in body and soule together, and therefore did desire that I might goe with them. With much importunity he gaue me leaue to stay with them all the time of famine; in which time, I did pine a way to skinn and bone, and became so weake, as they were glad to lead mee to some lowe rocke, on the side of an hill, where they set me downe first, and then sat downe themselves in rowes vpon the ground, to heare the word of God preached vnto them. Their forwardnesse to heare Gods word, and the Gouvernors loue in sending continually to know how I did, did so cheare and make glad my heart, as I made no reckning of the misery and want that I liued in.

When this Gouvernors time was out, he came for *England*, and left the government in the hands of sixe men to gouern monthly.

In the time of the mis-rule of those sixe Gouvernors, three of them went out in a little Pinace (to seeke for some reliefe) with a promise from the other three to admit of no Gouvernor sent from *England*, vntill sixe months after their arriual: not long after their departure, one of the other three (named *John Mansfield*)

Mansfield) became sole Gouvernor, and for the strengthening of himselfe against the Gouvernor that was expected from *England*, did drawe a large Petition, as though the People had drawn it, to entreat him to keepe the Gouvernement in his owne hands; they promising to maintaine him against the Gouvernor that was expected from *England*; to which Petition, he and one *John Parker*, a Black-Smith, drew the people euery where to subscribe. As soon as I heard thereof, I followed after from Tribe to Tribe, preaching, and in my Sermons shewing the ynlawfulnesse and euill that was like to come of the rebellion intended, and so drew the people euery where to renounce the said Petition.

The Vsurper hearing that the people had renounced the Petition, and that I was coming to the Towne, did raise the whole Towne vp in armes, to apprehend me and one Mr. *Fossyth*, that kept me company; the said Mr. *Fossyth* being apprehended, they hung him vp on the Wharfe by the hands and feete, where he hung in grieuous paine, no man daring to relieue him; but the women, who brought stones in their aprons, and thrust them vnder his body, to beare vp the weight of it. After they had so hung him vp, *Parker* the Black-Smith, came, and with a Crowe of yron brake open my Chamber doore, and drag'd me out to his owne house, where he kept me prisoner, till a tumultuous assembly was called, by the name of an Assizes, and then brought me to the Barre, where I was arraigned and condemned for a contemner of authority: The sentence pronounced against me, was, that I should

be deprived of my ministry, and confined to a little Island, where I should be kept from coming to the people.

This sentence did so offend the people, as they would by no means yeeld to the execution of it; but told him, that they were startied enough in their bodies, and that hee had no reason to starue them in their soules, by depriving them of my ministry. By which opposition, I had rest vntill the arriuall of a new Gouvernor, one Captaine *Tasker*: As soone as the Vsurper heard that a shippe was come into the Harbout with a new Gouvernor, and that the new Gouvernor had spoken to me, to preach at the reading of his Commission; he the said Vsurper, called the towne people together, and told them, that if they would stand to him like men, he would sticke to them, so long as he had a droppe of blood in his heart; they promising that they would; he charged them to be vp in armes the next day betimes, and told them, he would not haue me to preach, but Mr. *Keath*: Mr. *Keath* was no Minister, but a poore Scholler, that cunningly had got himselfe sent ouer for a Minister) who to further the rebellion intended, had buz'd into the peoples eares, that it was lawfull to resist the Gouvernor that was expected from *England*; and for prooffe thereof, did alleadge the example of the *Israelites*, their putting downe of *Rehoboam*, and setting vp of *Ieroboam* in his steed: And to stirre vp the Vsurper to shed the blood of such as should dare to oppose him, he did alleadge the example of *Athaliah*, who to vsurpe the Government, did murther all the Kings

Kings seede. Also he (the Vsurper) told the people, that presently after the Sermon, he would make a short speech to the Gouvernor; and that he would have them (as soone as he had left speaking) to crye a *Mansfield*, a *Mansfield*, and then shew themselves men.

The next morning, as I was studying for my Sermon, and looking out at a windowe, I saw the people vp in armes, and heard one of them sweare that he would sheath his sword in the new Gouvernors guts: Whereupon I made hast out of my Chamber, and finding the Ship-boate ready to goe off; did enter in, to goe to the new Gouvernor, to acquaint him with what was intended; the new Gouvernor being then on ship-boord: I was no sooner in the Boate, but certaine Muscateres were sent in hast, by the Vsurper to shoote at me, vnlesse I would come out: Whereupon, the Marriners fearing they would shoote, and kill some of them instead of me, did set me on shore againe.

The Vsurper seeing me about to land, came with a rusty browne Bill on his backe, as though hee meant to knocke me in the head; telling the people, that they had all of them cause, to curse the time that euer they saw my face; which did put me in some feare, that either he or they would doe mee some mischiefe; therefore I made hast away, and lockt my selfe in my Chamber.

About three or foure houres after, the new Gouvernor came, and was suffered quietly to goe to the Church; where, as soone as Mr. Keath had made an end of his Sermon, the Vsurper made a

short speech vnto him, and did no sooner make an
end of speaking, but Mr. *Kraak* (according as the
Vsurper had giuen order) was the first man, that
cried a *Mansfield*, a *Mansfield*; and so was like
to set vs together by the eares, to cut one anothers
throat, euen in the Church; had not the new Go-
uernor with speed caused his Commission to be
read; the reading whereof, did so daunt the Vsurper,
as he came downe and gaue place vnto him.

Thus, I haue in part deliuered vnto your Ho-
nours, the stirre (that *Sathan* in his instruments) did
make in the time of the mis-rule of the sixe Gouer-
nors; in hope thereby to bring ruine vpon that
poore new planted Vineyard of the Lord Iesus.

What he was not able to accomplish then, he
was like to effect in the new Gouernors time; who
was a fit instrument for him to stirre vp the people
to mutany, and so to ouerthrow the Plantation: For
he was no sooner established in his place, but hee
tooke from euery one of the first Planters, halfe an
Acre of ground, that the Company had giuen to
them and theirs, which was no small discoura-
gement vnto them; considering the extreame pains
that they had taken, in much hunger and nakednes;
without any wages, in making 11. Forts.

One *Richard Sanders*, an honest poore man, who
had builded vpon his halfe acre a conuenient dwel-
ling house, and had bestowed cost and labor vpon a
Garden Plot, where diuerse good hearbs and
flowers did growe; and greewing to haue all ta-
ken from him on the suddaine; before he was
prouided of any other place, for himselfe, his poore
wife

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wife and children; did but aske if they might not
complainte to the King? For asking of that ques-
tion, Capt. *Tucker* did imprison him, and put more
Iron vpon him, then he was able to beare, wherein
hee lay vpon the ground night and day in
griuous paine.

One *Paul Deane*, being arraigned and condem-
ned, for stealing a peece of cheese, pleaded the be-
nefit of his cleargy (according to the lawes of *Eng-
land*) was rigorously denied, and so hang'd.

The poore man that was put in Irons for asking
if they might not complainte to the King (seeing
how like a Tyrant Capt. *Tucker* behaued himselfe,
in cudgelling the poore people, and in arraigning
and condemning for small matters, and censuring
such to remaine perpetuall slaves vnto the cullony)
he and foure more, to free themselues from his ti-
rannie, did desperately leaue the Ilands and came
for *Englund* in a little Boate of two or three tunnes,
or thereabout.

The feare of his tyranny did reclaime diuerse of
the lazy crue, so as they became painfull labourers,
for which he was much commended.

The wrongs that he did me (your poore Sup-
pliant) were like to tempt me about my strength:
as first, he tooke my seruant from me, and so con-
strained me to liue comfortlesse alone; and to goe
vp and downe the Iland, seeking for fire-wood, and
to bring it home on my backe, and then to goe
from house to house for fire, and to goe with my
Pitcher through the towne, to the Pumpe for wa-
ter; and to doe other base and seruill offices, very
vnbecoming

unbecoming a Minister of Gods word. Also he tooke from me a peece of blacke stuffe, which *Sr. Thomas Smith* had caused to be bought for me, I being then in great want of cloathing, and so poore, as I was constrained to goe almost three yeares in one olde strawe Hatte; and almost two yeares in one olde paire of cobbled Shooes, driuen full of nailes.

Also, he tooke from me three acres of choise ground for Tobacco, and two men that the Company had given me.

Also, he did interrupt me in my Sermon, telling me, that I was out of my text, and when the Sermon was ended, he did threaten to clap my neck and heeles together.

The matter that did offend him, was this: I seeing (to my griefe) how in his two last yeares, he gave over all care of the Plantation, to build and plant for himselfe; and did exhaust the store, to build a stately house of Cedar for himselfe, Gods house all that while, being but a shatch Houell, which was kept so badly, as when it rained, there was almost no place where the people could sit drie: I tooke occasion on a day in my Sermon to shew how the wrath of God came on the *Israelites*, for the like neglect of Gods house: Whereupon, he stood vp, and with a loud voyce, told me that I was out of my text, and to the euill example of the people, went out of the Church in a great rage; and as soone as he saw me come out, came to me, and told me, that he would clappe my neck and heeles together: After that time, he became

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he became an enemy vnto Religion, so as he constrained me to giue over the Thursday Lecture; because the people could not come to heare me, hee did so employ them about his owne businesse: he spared not the Sabbath day, but sent the people abroad, so as I was much discouraged from preaching in the after-noones.

In the time of his Government God did bring a great Iudgement vpon the Ilands, in that he caused Rats to abound, so as no Iland was free but were all like so many Conney-warrens of Rattes.

The Rattes were a grieuous plague vnto the People, both within doors and without; Within they deuoured all prouision of food, cloathes, and shooes: Without, they deuoured the Come, by scraping it out of the ground when it was new set; the graines that were thrust in so deepe as they could not scrape vp, they deuoured in the blade, as soone as it appeared aboue ground: Where some escaped them in the blade, they deuoured in the eare. They deuoured all other fruit of the earth, which serued for foode; and did kill and deuoure almost all the young Birds, and Chickens, & sucked their egges. I am not able to expresse the feare that was in the people, that they should be starued, when they saw that nothing that serued for foode, could be kept from the Rattes.

The people did spend their whole time, night, and day, in keeping the Rattes vnder, by hunting them with dogges, setting of traps, and poison; & burning the Ilands twice ouer, whereby much timber

There
are almost
a 100 little
Ilands, the
biggest is
but 18.
miles long
and almost
two miles
broad.

ber and fire-wood was consumed.

Then, euen then, when they endeouored by all meanes to destroy the Rattes, they encreased the more; till God in mercy, hearing our praiers, did take them away on the suddaine, in three or foure daies, so as no man could tell how.

Assoone as the Rattes were gone, the people with glad hearts did betake themselues to plant Corne, and by the blessing of God, had a plentiful harvest: Whereupon Capt. *Tucker* being minded to come for *England*, caused euery man to bring a certaine quantity of corne into the Forts, to be kept there in store, and handled the matter so (after he was come ouer) as he drew all the company to helpe, that by meanes of his industry and care, the Ilands were so well furnished with corne, and the Ratts destroyed: Whereupon, to requite his care, they did bestowe vpon him, the stately house that he had built, and three shares of the best land in all the Ilands.

At his comming away, he left the Gouvernement in the hands of one Captaine *Kendall*; who through pouerty, was constrained to take out of the Forts, the corne that Capt. *Tucker* had caused to be brought in.

After Capt. *Kendall*, succeded Capt. *Nathaniel Butler*, a man well qualified euery way for such employment.

He no sooner saw how God had done his part, to make those Ilands strong, and safe from all forraigne inuasion, by fortifying them round about with fearefull rockes and shoules, so as there is no com-
ming

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ming neare with shippes to invade them, but in two narrowe and curious channels, which doe lead into two goodly and large Harbours; and how the first Planters in Capt. *Mores* time, had done their best endeavours in the matter of artificiall fortifications. as,

On the channell that leadeth into the west harbour, they had builded a strong Fort, and a Castle, which they called the Kings Castle, where they had mounted 18. great Pieces, on cariages sent from *England*; which through the negligence of succeeding Gouvernors, were gone to decay. Capt. *Butler* tooke small rest, till he had repaired such as could be repaired, and made new cariages of cedar for the rest: so now those 18. great Peices are very serviceably mounted; so also are all the other great Peices in the rest of the Forts. As, not farre from that channell, towards the south, is a Fort built by the first Planters in Capt. *Mores* time, called *Charles Fort*, where are two great Peices.

On the North side of the Channell Capt. *Butler* hath built a strong Fort to flanker the Kings Castle, which he called *Southampton Fort*, where are five great Peices, serviceably mounted by Cap. *Butler* on cariages of cedar: Which Fort doth make a great shewe to the sea, as though it were a Castle.

To the Northward of that Fort, the first Planters in Capt. *Mores* time, built a Fort, which they called *Pembrooke Fort*, where are two great Peices.

The

The other Channell that leadeth Into the East Harbour, commonly called the Towne Harbour, hath on the one side, towards the North, a Fort built by the first Planters in *Capt. Mores* time, called Pagets Fort, where are 7. great Pieces.

On the other side, towards the South, is a Fort called Smiths Fort, built by the first Planters in *Capt. Mores* time, where are 5. great Pieces.

Not farre from that Channell, towards the north, is a Fort called Penissions Fort, built by the first Planters in *Capt. Mores* time, where is one great Piece.

A little from that Fort, is a Fort built by the first Planters in *Capt. Mores* time, called Sands Fort, where are 2. great Pieces.

On a Hill neare the Harbour, is a Fort built by the first Planters in *Capt. Mores* time, called Warwicke Fort, where are 3. great Pieces to command the Harbour.

On a Hill neare the Towne was a high Mount, (built by the first Planters in *Capt. Mores* time) blowne downe with a terrible gust of winde, & is now built vp againe, higher and stronger, by *Capt. Butler*: where is also one great piece, mounted by *Capt. Butler* to give warning.

In the Towne, vpon the Wharfe are 7. great Pieces, mounted by *Capt. Butler*, to command the Harbour; which great Pieces he recovered out of certaine Wrackes.

Captaine Butler hath built in the Towne a faire towne Hall of stone, and a faire strong Prison of cedar.

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In the Maine he hath built three faire long
Bridges of cedar, like Kingston Bridge.

In his time, the Kings Lawes were established
in the Ilands, and the Assiizes kept orderly, as
they are in England.

Before his time, euer since Capt. Mores time,
the Gouernors will went for lawe, and some of the
Kings Subiects were hanged contrary to the Kings
law, and some condemned and censured to per-
petuall slavery.

Captaine Butler did ordaine for euery Tribe a
Iustice of the Peace, a Constable, Church-war-
dens, Side-men, and Waywards; and did cause
Cages, Stockes, and Cucking-stooles to be made in
euery Tribe.

Notwithstanding, the great care that he had to
suppresse sinne, it did abound euery day more and
more, through the want of Gods Word, the Ilands
being pestered with lewd Persons, taken vp out of
the Streetes, out of Newgate and Bridewell.

In his time I came to England, to see if I could
perswade some Ministers to goe ouer, and to ac-
quaint the Company with the weake estate of the
Ilands, and grieuances of the people, which were
ready to mutiny.

When I came into the *Bermuda Court*, to present
the grieuances of the People, and weake estate of
the Ilands, *Sr. Edm. Sands* (misinformed by *Capt.
Tucker*) did stand vp in the face of the Court, to
accuse me of many foule crimes; saying vnto me,
Mr. Lewes, you doe vse in your Sermons to speake
against the Church of England, to raile vpon
Bishops,

Bishops, and to say that the Booke of Common Praier is but an olde Wifes tale; and you will not Baptize Children, yhesse their Parents doe first make confession of their Faith.

To his first accusation, I answered; that the Church of *England* was my Mother, and that al the knowledge, all the faith and hope of saluation that I haue, I had it in the Church of *England*, which I take to be the true Church of God; and that therefore, my tongue shall be cut out of my mouth, before it shall speake against the Church of *England*, as some doe:

To his second, concerning railing vpon Bishops, I tolde him, that it were too much peeuisshnesse for me, to meddle with the Bishops there, where they could not meddle with me: The truth is, that preaching vpon the sufferings of our Saviour Christ, I shewed how the high Priests, were the greatest enemies that our Saviour had; and from them I gathered, that the grace of God and learning doe not alway goe together; and for prooofe of my doctrine, I shewed how the Romish Lord Bishops are the greatest supplanters of Christian Religion, and shedders of Christian blood; and did nominate bloody *Banner*, Bishop of *London*, and *Gardner* Bishop of *Winchester*: Not speaking a word of the reuerend Fathers, the Bishops of the Church of *England*, as it now stands, whom I honour from my heart, for the good that I haue and dayly doe receaue out of their godly and learned Works.

To his third accusation, concerning the Booke of

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Common Praier: I answered, that I was so farre from speaking, as I neuer had, and hoped neuer should haue a thought in my heart, tending to that way: wherevpon, Sr. Edwin did produce mine Enemy *Capt. Tucker*, for his Informer.

Capt. Tucker did produce *Capt. Kendall*, who testified, that he had heard me say that the Booke of Common Praier was good for olde men and women to read at home, when they were not able to goe to Church.

The Court taking notice how they differed in their testimony, some said, *Marke how these men cannot agree in their testimonies, faine they would doe the poore man some harme, but they haue not agreed vpon the matter.*

Captaine Kendall was one of the three Gouvernors that promised to admit of no Gouvernor sent from *England*, he became mine enemy because I had acquainted the Company with the wrongs that he had done the Ilands in the time of his Government, in taking the corne out of the Forts, and dis-furnishing the Ilands of certaine murthering Pieces, and other necessaries, which he sold to a Pirat. I did acquaint the Company with nothing but what *Capt. Butler* (then Gouvernor) did aduise me, and what I was bound by mine oath to declare, as I was one of the Priuie Counsell in the *Summer Ilands*.

To his fourth accusation, concerning the Baptizing of children, I answered, that many poore boyes and girles, (taken vp, out of the streetes,
B out

out of Newgate and Bridewell and the Hospitals)
were sent to the Sommers Islands, where they were
brought vp in ignorance like Heathen , so as, when
they became men and women, and were married,
and had children , they were not able to bring vp
their children in the Christian Faith : therefore, to
bring such to haue some care of themselves and
of their children, I gaue out, that I would not baptise
their children, ylesse the parents were able to yeeld
some reckoning of their Faith, or at least, rehearse
the Articles without booke: and to encourage them
thereunto, I drewe some of the better sort, (for
example sake) to rehearse the Articles, before their
children were baptised.

After I had thus answered to his accusations, I
desired the Court not to passe ouer sleightly, the
things whereof I was acculed but take some paines
to examine and finde out the truth: then, *Sir Edwin*
(as though hee had bene satisfied) did stand vp,
laying vnto me, *well, well, Master Lewes, it is*
enough for you, that we knowe you to be an honest man,
and that you haue done much good in the Plantation:
as for these things, let them dye, stirre in them no
further.

Though *Sir Edwin* made a shewe as though hee
were satisfied, and to haue a good opinion of mee,
yet, such of the Company as are souerely mis-
ded, and do aime altogether at their owne ends, were
to against me, as they denyed to giue any thing to-
wards my charges in crossing the seas in lying hke

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& weake at Falmouth, and in trauellling from thence
to London by land, being eleauen score miles, with
horse and guide, not able some dayes to trauell
aboue ten myles; yea they were so against me as
they refused to releue me with my wages, and so
constrained me, (for the bearing of my charges
backe againe to the Sommer Ilands) to take from
my poore wife all that I could, and to leaue her in
great want, which was no small grieffe vnto me.

Within few monthes after my arriual, a newe
Gouernour, (one *Captaine Bernard*) was sent to
succede *Captaine Butler*, and with him foure Mi-
nisters.

One of the Ministers named *Master Wright*, was
no sooner landed, but went about the Ilands in-
uaighing against me, almost thre weekes before I
could finde him out: at length, when I came where
he was, he told me that he tooke me to be a disho-
nour to the Ministry, and a shame to all Ministers,
and that *Sir Edwin Sands* had told him that I was
a man not fit to liue in a Common-wealth: which
opprobrious speeches, I tooke patiently, because
the standers by did cleare me of those things where-
of he had accused me; so as he seemed to be satis-
fied, and went about the Ilands, speaking well of
me where he had spoken euill, and dyed within
sixe or seauen dayes after.

The new Gouernour then lying vpon his death
bed, and hearing that I did grieue and pine away,
because he and the Ministers had an euill opinion of

me, did send an honest man, one *William More* to comfort me, willing him to tell me, that he found no truth in the reports that were made vnto him of me by some of the Company, and that if I would stay in the Ilands, I should finde his loue: within foure dayes after this, it pleased God that he also dyed.

After the death of the *Gouernour*, diuers of the dishonest and vnruely sort, (taking notice how the *Ministers* and the new *Officers* that were sent ouer with the new *Gouernour*, had an euil opinion of me) did so wrong and insult ouer me, as was like to breake my heart, and hauing receaued a lamentable letter from my wife, signifying that the Company did refuse to pay the mony that I did allow her, out of my wages, and that she was in great want, I resolu'd to come for England.

At my returne backe againe, *Sir Edwin Sands* and *Deputie Ferrar* who then were the chiefe managers of the affaires of the *Sommer Ilands*, had got a new matter against me, which being openly reade in the Court behind my backe, did confirme diuerse of the *Aduenturers* in the euill opinion that they had of me: their new matter was, certaine false notes, collected out of a Sermon, that I made before diuers that were inclined to mutiny, by meanes of which false notes, the hearts of such as with their multiplicitie of voyces beare most sway, are so set against me, as I am like to lose the greatest part of my wages to my vtter vndoing.

Being

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Being aduised by my friends to petition his Ma-
jesties Commissioners for Virginea and Sommers
Ilands, my petition was sent by them to the Com-
pany for an answer: whereupon Master *Nicholas*
Ferrar, then Deputie, came to the Commissioners
and tould them, that there was nothing due vn-
to me, and that if there were, he would pay euery
penny himselfe.

Sir *Edwin* alone, did take vpon him to answer
my Petition in writing, and did so wrong me, as
one of the Commissioners tould me, that there was
such matters against me, as they must turne me to
a higher authority: whereupon I did Petition your
Honours about twelue monthes since, and had an
order to enioyne the Company to giue present sa-
tisfaction of what was due: whereupon Master
John Ferrar late Deputie came into the Court and
openly in the face of the Court did affirme, that
there was nothing due vnto me, vnto whose testi-
mony, the multitude (who with their multiplicity
of voyces doe beare all the sway) haue giuen such
credit, as I haue no hope to recover my wages.

The Gouvernour Sir *Thomas Smith*, and others
that are honourable and Christianly minded,
though they be willing, yet are not able to helpe
me, because of the multiplicity of voyces that are
against me: therefore I am constrained to appeale
from the multiplicity of voyces, to your Honours
for Iustice.

*The Demandes of me Lewes Hughes for
the time that I have spent in the service of
the Sommer Islands Company and
in suing for my wages.*

I Did Contract with the Company but for three
yeares after 50. pounds per annum, as appea-
reth by their Order of Court made the 18. of
March 1613. for which I acknowledge my selfe to
be satisfied,

The Copy of the Order.

Taking in consideration, the necessitie of sending
ouer sufficient Ministers, they were given to un-
derstand of one Master Lewes Hughes, who pro-
fereth him selfe to be imployed for three yeares, and
referred the determination to a private meeting, which
was held the 26. of this present, where they agreed:
viz. Master Gouvernour, Master Deputie, &c. That
he should, if he could not enioye his health, returne with
the first shipping, and to haue for the time he stayer
50. pounds per annum, viz. 10. pounds to himselfe;
and 40. pounds to his wife or to his Atturney.

Those three yeares being expired, I wrote to the
Company for more Ministers, that I might come
home, they sending none, I was constrained to
stay: For the next yeare after the expiration of the
Contract, viz. 1617. Wherein I was kept there in
much

415
435

much misery against my will, the people being increased, and dispersed vp and downe the Maine into eight feuerall Congregations, besides the Colony, having no Minister but my selfe to looke to them all, liuing more like a slaue then a Minister of Gods word, my seruant being detained from mee by the Gouvernour, so as I was constrained to liue comfortlesse alone, and to goe vp & downe the Island for fire-wood, and to bring it home vpon my backe, and then to goe from house to house for fire, and to goe with my pitcher through the Towne to the Pumpe for water, and to doe other base and seruile offices, very vnbecoming a Minister of Gods word: notwithstanding all these discouragements, I did (through the helpe of God) preach constantly euery Thursday once, and euery Saboth twise, besides Catechising: therefore I hope that the Company being Honorable, will not offer lesse then 100. pounds for that yeare, considering that out of my loue to the Plantation, I did goe for 50. pounds *per annum*, when they were willing and did offer to giue to another 100. pounds who would not goe vnder 200.

For the yeare 1618. I require 100. pounds because the Company by an Order of Court held the 24. of Iune did allowe for foure Ministers for each of them 100. pounds *per annum*, and notwithstanding did leaue me there alone to beare the burthen of that yeare, without the helpe of any Minister, the people still encreasing, and the Islands pestered

wish lewde disordered persons taken, vp out of the
streetes, out of New-gate and Bridewell. Some
of the company doe say, that I was not alone, but
had one Mr. Keath to helpe me: The truth is, that
Mr. Keath was no Minister, neither was he any
helpe but a great plague vnto me, and was like to
be the ruine of vs all; when taking part with Mans-
field the Vsurper against the lawfull Governour, he
was the first man that out of the Pulpit, cried
a Mansfield, a Mansfield, and so was like to
set vs together by the eares, to cut one anothers
throate, euen in the Church.

The Copie of the order.

THe Ministers shall be chosen here in a quarter
Court, and the prouision for them there, is to bee
made on this sort: There shall be erected 4. Churches,
and 4. Parsonages belonging to them, and shall haue
30. acres for each Parsonage, and vpon each of those
Parsonage Gleabs, there shall be placed 4. men; taken
off from the canon land, to occupie the same to halfe,
for the behoofe of the Minister, and for the yearely
maintenance of the Ministers.ouer and aboue the
houses and gleabs, it is ordered, that there shall bee
apportioned to them out of the fruites of the earib,
(growing and accruing out of their seuerall Parishes)
a certaine portion, by way of charge vpon euery share
or Farme, so as to make each Ministers allowance
in that kinde, to the value of 100. pounds.

For

416
475

For the year 1619. I require 100. pounds
per annum, because the Company in a Court held
the 25. of February, agreed & ordered, that the said
order touching the Minister, should be prosecuted:
and for the payment of the Ministers wages, they
layed 3. pence the pound on the Tobacco, and
left me alone to beare the burthen of that year
also, till the latter end of it, that one Mr. Lang was
sent to assist me, who dyed there; vnto whose
Widow, the Company haue paid after a 100.
pounds per annum, according to the order.

The Copie of the order.

Taking into consideration, the defect of the Mi-
nistry in the Summer Islands, having at this
present but onely two, viz. Mr. Lewes and Mr.
Bridges: and understanding that the said Mr. Bridges
is not sufficient to execute his function, as they de-
sire: It was thought convenient, for the educating
the Inhabitants in the feare of God, that two able
Ministers shall presently be sent to assist Mr. Lewes,
whom they wish may bee desired to stay: And the
said two Ministers, to bee seated and imployed vpon
the Tribes; and for their maintenance, it is agreed
that the former order shall bee prosecuted touching the
Ministry, and what shall faile in that, of making
good

good to each of them 100. pounds per ann. that then
there shall be an imposition of 3. pence the pounce and
not above) laid there upon the Tobacco, which shall
returne, the occupiers being willing to beare halfe
with the owners in the contribution : And touching
Mr. Bridges, it is thought fit to send for him home
unlesse he please to stay as a private man, without sa-
lary from the Company.

My Aduersaries doe say, that the Company,
since my coming for England, haue paid their
Moitye, and that I was to receaue the other in the
Ilands ; and that therefore the Company are not
to pay it.

To them I answered, that I neuer could haue
soure men to manage the Gleabe-land accord-
ing to the order : and therefore, the people did
not contribute there, but haue paid their Moitye
in money heere, according to the imposition layed
on their Tobacco.

For the years 1620. wherein (finding my selfe
to faint vnder the intollerable butthen which I
was constrained to vndergoe) I came to England,
to see if I could perswade some Ministers to goe
ouer, and also to acquaint the Company with
the grieuances of the people, which were ready to
mutany : And also to acquaint them with the
weake estate of the Ilands, most needfull to bee
lookt into in time: I require a 100. pounds, ac-
cording

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according to their law: Because it was neuer heard;
that a Minister in England, comming to London
about the Important affaires of the Common
wealth, had his living sequestred from him for
that time.

For the yeare 1621. Wherein I did returne to
the Summer Islands, the Company then in their
generall Letters did desire the Gouvernor to provide
for me, according to their orders; which he could
not doe, because the Tobacco Haruest was past
before their Letters came; Therefore, I desire that
the 100. pounds due for that yeare may bee made
good some other way: the poor people there hauing
paid their moiety in money here, according to the im-
position that was layed vpon their Tobacco.

For the yeare 1622. I am satisfied, because the
Gouernor (according to the order) did leaue
600. weight of Tobacco, to make vp the Tobacco
which was made that yeare on the gleabe land to
the value of a 100. pounds sterling.

For the yeares 1623. & 1624. wherein the
Company haue not as yet discharged me of my
Cure, neither by order of Court, nor by warning,
nor by any satisfaction; but haue kept me in sus-
pence, suing for my wages with much griefe of
heart, being much indepted, hauing no meanes to
pay my depts, nor to relieue my selfe, my poore
Wife

Wife and Family, but by borrowing and going on the score, so as my deptes are increased : The lease of my house which cost me 30. pounds, laid in pawne for 12. pounds, is forfeited : It is also forfeited to the Landlord for not paying the last quarters rent: a Bond of 60. pounds is forfeited for non payment of 27. pounds. My poore aged wife whose heart is almost broke with grieuing, is miserable weake and sicke, I hauing not a penny to buy her a loafe of bread but as I borrow or begge; For these two yeares that haue beene so grievous and chargeable vnto me, I will thankfully accept of what your Honours shall think fit, either by way of salary, because I am not as yet discharged of my Cure; or by way of dammage, in regard of my losses and hindrances.

Concerning the agreement, which (as they say) was made at my returne to the *Summer Islands*, viz. That if the Company would pay vnto my Wife 95. pounds, and giue me the transportation of two men, I would be therewith satisfied, and put the Company to no more charges : which agreement the Company did breake first, in refusing to pay the said 90. pounds to my wife, which hath brought her to such want and grieue, as is like to cost her her life, and therefore I am not bound to stand to it, considering they brake it first.

Thus

418 433
Thus I haue deliuered vnto your Ho-
nours, the iust cause of my complaints,
which in the bowels of CHRIST IESVS
I commend vnto your honours charitable
consideration, for speedy redresse of my
wrongs. In Witnesse of the truth of
all the premises, I haue hereunto sub-
scribed my name.

LEWIS HUGHES.
